

compiled by Melna Skillingstead, Arts Commission Arts Administrator

whats happening in *redmond arts*



Percent for Art Installations

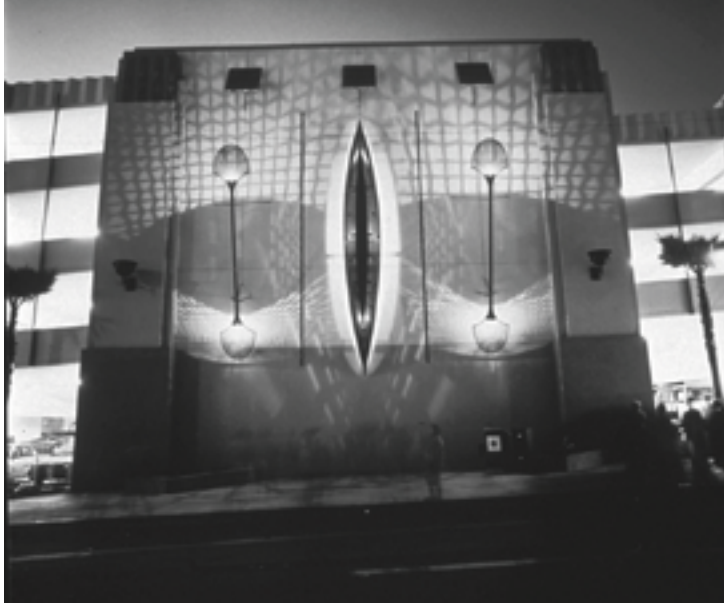
In 2005, Redmond will become home to three new art installations funded by the Percent for Art program. Percent for Art is a City of Redmond program that allocates 1% of the construction budget of certain eligible capital improvement projects – such as new building construction and park renovations – to the creation of art for that project.

City Hall and Parking Garage Public Art

Wright Runstad and Company, the developer of the new City Hall and parking garage, has generously followed the spirit of the Percent for Art program by funding art for the two structures, even though the developer is not required to do so.

Two artist selection panels, comprised of members of the Redmond Arts Commission and Seattle artists and architects invited by 4Culture reviewed the work of over 100 artists to select commissions for the new City Hall and parking garage.

After much difficult deliberation, the City Hall panel selected Portland, Oregon artist Ed Carpenter to design a glass installation for the front façade of the new City Hall. Carpenter has built more than 75 large-scale public installations in Japan and the United States. His work, which ranges from architectural sculpture



© Blue McRight and Warren Wagner, 1998, Traveler, steel, lights, stone, Ventura, California, night view of parking garage façade.

to infrastructure design, has been described as complex, graceful, and grand. He is known as an eager and open-minded collaborator and a technical innovator. A Carpenter installation enhances all the elements of a site by using glass, metal, and illumination to manipulate the play of light. For information, visit www.edcarpenter.net, or check out the May issue of Architectural Record. FYI: Carpenter is the same artist who designed the breathtaking light sculpture in the rotunda at Safeco!

The second artist selection panel chose the art for the new parking garage commission through an invitational process of West coast artists. The panel selected Blue McRight and Warren Wagner, a Los Angeles-based team who have collaborated to create innovative public art installations that are environmentally sensitive. The new parking garage will be their first commission in Washington. Blue McRight has extensive experience in studio art and exhibition as well as site-specific work. Warren Wagner is an environmental architect who focuses on resource-conserving architecture, public works, and energy management consulting. His work explores the relationship between ecology and architecture, along with the technologies involved in sustainable design. The Arts Commission eagerly awaits their

design idea for the parking garage commission.

Grass Lawn Park Art Dedication

Join the Redmond Arts Commission at Grass Lawn Park on May 14 at 11am to dedicate the newest piece of public art to grace Redmond's parks. **The First Pitch** is a larger-than-life sculpture of a female softball player in polished stainless steel. The sculpture is sinuous, bright, and captures the energy of a softball pitch. Internationally renowned regional artist Hai Ying Wu designed the sculpture to complement the recent renovations to Grass Lawn Park, which include a new softball field and tennis courts. He also designed the cut steel sculpture above Redmond Fire Station 16. **The First Pitch** is situated at the entrance to Field One at Grass Lawn Park, just off of 148th Avenue NE.

Art Grants Announcements

If you have an idea for a class about art, but don't have the funds to carry it out, consider applying for **Redmond Arts Commission Arts Education Grant**. This program awards grants to individuals or organizations for eligible projects that have clearly stated artistic and educational goals. Please note that an Arts Education Grant is intended to match funds with individual and organizational fundraising. Grant projects should provide arts education opportunities

within the Redmond city limits and can include residents of all ages. Application Deadline: April 22, 2005 for 2005 funding; November 3, 2005 for 2006 funding.

The Redmond Arts Commission's Organizational Support Grant provides funding to active 501(c)(3) arts organizations whose programs or services benefit Redmond residents of all ages. Qualifying organizations must offer arts events, programs, and/or services that demonstrate a reliable record of program and administrative stability. Application Deadline: June 17, 2005 for 2005 funding; October 21, 2005 for 2006 funding.

Applications for both grant programs may be downloaded from the City of Redmond's website, www.redmond.gov, under Recreation and Arts. Or, request an application by calling 425-556-2316.



© Ed Carpenter, 2001, Public Library Atrium Sculpture, laminated dichroic glass, aluminum, and stainless cables, Memphis, Tennessee.

Book Recommendation

Jill Schmidt, Art Commissioner
Oryx and Crake by Margaret Atwood

Oryx and Crake is a dark and often funny fairy tale about a time when biotech business strove to help people achieve their every desire: youth, beauty, and immortality. Companies such as *RejoovenEsense* and *AnooYoo* split and recombined genes to make products for anyone who could afford them.

So what if the food is synthetic? It tastes almost like the real thing. So what if the biotech products don't always perform as advertised? Company security cops keep manufacturers safe from eco-terrorists or dissatisfied customers. So what if some of the new life forms are dangerous? Security pens keep everyone protected.

Oryx and Crake is a satiric look at a society not entirely unlike our own. The book has comic moments, but it also forces the reader to question what society and individuals really want from science, technology, and business.



poetsinthepark.com. Or call Michael Dylan Welch at 425-707-9465 or 425-836-8875.

Art Gallery Schedule

The Redmond Arts Commission is proud to host the following artwork at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center.

The public may browse the gallery during Community Center hours (Monday-Friday, 8 am to 8 pm and Saturdays 9 am to 1 pm). All artwork is for sale. Artists and dates are subject to change:

- February 5 - April 2
Jessica Phrogus/Flora Ramirez-Bustamante
- April 2 - June 4
Ellen Miffit/Adelle Eutis
- June 4 - August 6
Historical Society Art Contest
- August 6 - October 1
John A Woodard/Miriam Drake
- October 1 - November 19
Lisa Sheets/Yael Zahavy-Mittelman

Outdoor Sculpture exhibit

The Redmond Arts Commission would like your feedback on the Redmond Outdoor Sculpture exhibit. If you haven't yet toured the exhibit, you can find brochures adjacent to the sculptures in front of Larry's Market, the Redmond Library, near the flag pole at Luke McRedmond Landing, the Redmond Town Center (RTC) south parking lot across from Ruby's, the RTC Open Space across from the Lake Washington School District Resource Center, next to the bench at Redmond Saturday market, and next to the old Keeney's along Redmond Way at 161st Avenue NE, and on the City's website at www.redmond.gov. Please send us brief comments at ROS@redmond.gov.

Call for Arts Volunteers

Are you interested in helping to choose the visual art displays around Redmond? The Visual Arts Committee of the Redmond Arts Commission supports visual arts throughout Redmond, including the sculpture exhibit and the gallery at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse

Community Center. Contact Melna Skillingstead at 425-556-2316 or mksillingstead@redmond.gov.

Call for Volunteer Arts Award Nominations

Nominate an outstanding volunteer in the arts in Redmond for the 2005 Arts Awards. This year's art award will be a cast and fused glass piece created by Redmond glass artist Bill Ayers. For details and a downloadable nomination form, visit www.redmond.gov. Or contact Melna Skillingstead at 425-556-2316 or mksillingstead@redmond.gov. Awards will be presented at the City Council meeting on June 21.

Arts in the Parks

July 13-August 24

Residents can look forward to another fantastic summer of performing arts concerts at locations around Redmond, including Anderson Park, the Microsoft campus, and a season opener at Redmond Town Center. The full schedule of Arts in the Parks events will appear in the Summer issue of FOCUS. Arts in the Parks is presented by the Redmond Arts Commission with support from 4Culture, Redmond Town Center, and other community sponsors.

Poets in the Park

March 19 and 20 in Redmond

Now in its second year, "Poets in the Park" is a weekend poetry conference at Clise Mansion in Redmond's Marymoor Park. This event, which is open to the public, is produced by the Redmond Association of SPokenword (RASPO) and features workshops, readings, and panel discussions for established and aspiring poets.

Local and nationally recognized poets will discuss form and content of their poetry. Participate in master poetry classes, hear critiques and discussion of your own poetry, present your poetry in open readings, and buy books at the poetry book fair (author signings, too). For the event schedule, list of speakers, and to register for Poets in the Park, please visit www.



Jude Bowerman